

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 175  
By McLeary

A RESOLUTION to honor and applaud Head Coach Mark Campbell and the Union University women's basketball team upon winning the 2005 NAIA National Championship.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful sports teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to the State of Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, the Union University women's basketball program is one such estimable basketball team that achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2004-2005 season, establishing a record of thirty-five wins and five losses on the way to claiming the NAIA National Championship Title; and

WHEREAS, the Union University women's basketball team rolled through the tournament by prevailing over the powerhouse teams of Lubbock Christian (by the dominating score of 77-55), North Georgia (83-75), Vanguard (87-72), and Point Loma Nazarene (84-58) in a juggernautish romp into the NAIA National Championship Game; and

WHEREAS, Union completed their perfect tournament record by defeating Oklahoma City University 67-63; this herculean effort was led by the outstanding performances of Union's Merideth Richardson who scored fifteen points, Stephanie Clark who scored fourteen points and grabbed sixteen rebounds, Jennifer Henson who scored twelve points, and Ena Daniels who scored eleven points; and

WHEREAS, the Union University women's basketball team includes players Crystal Eason, Whitney Tate, Ena Daniels, Jennifer Henson, Tiffany Fisher, LaTorya Fuller, Laura Mitchell, Peggy McCain, Merideth Richardson, Monica Elliot, Natanya Smith, Stephanie Clark, Molly York, and Josephine Owino; and

WHEREAS, Stephanie Clark was named the 2005 NAIA Women's Basketball Tournament Most Valuable Player, the NAIA Co-Player of the Year, and a NAIA First-Team All-American; and

WHEREAS, Stephanie Clark, Ena Daniels, and Merideth Richardson were named to the All-Tournament Team, and Union's senior guard, Monica Elliot, earned the NAIA National Tournament Hustle Award; Merideth Richardson was named an NAIA All-American Honorable Mention; and

WHEREAS, making fifty-one three-point shots during the tournament, the Lady Bulldogs shattered the NAIA Tournament record for most three-point buckets; Merideth Richardson made 18 three-point shots during the tournament, one shy of the record; Edna Daniels led Union with twenty-six steals during the tournament, only three short of the record; and

WHEREAS, named NAIA Women's Head Coach of the Year, Mark Campbell laid the groundwork for this year's championship team by sharing with these young women his substantial knowledge of basketball, his many years of coaching and athletic experience, and his passion both for the sport of basketball and for excellence in every endeavor; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the able leadership of Head Coach Campbell, the Union University Coaching Staff included Assistant Coach Katie Woodruff, Graduate Assistant Coach Tonya Tuggles, Student Assistant JoAnna Vaughn, and Student Assistant Stephanie Scofield; Union University's Training Staff includes Head Trainer Lee Ann Simmons, Student Trainer Amy McCutcheon, and Student Trainer Ashley Odom; and

WHEREAS, the basketball players at Union University epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved a premier level of success in competition while showing the highest degree of character both on and off the court; and

WHEREAS, the perseverance, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young women not only made possible a championship basketball season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future enterprise; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the Union University Lady Bulldogs for winning the 2004-2005 NAIA Women's Basketball

Championship and for serving as examples of the exceptional quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate and recognize Head Coach Mark Campbell and the Union University's women's basketball team upon capturing the NAIA Division I Women's Basketball Title and wish them every success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.